

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice claims 2-6, 11-14, 17-18, 20, 22-70, 72, 86, 88 and 96 and amend claims 1, 8, 15, 19, 71, 76, 85, 89 and 90 as indicated in the list of pending claims:

PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A tissue biopsy device for accessing and collecting a tissue specimen from a target site within a patient, comprising:
 - a. an elongated probe member which has a longitudinal axis, which has a proximal end configured to be secured to a drive, which has an inner lumen extending therein, which has a penetrating distal tip and which has an aperture proximal to the penetrating distal tip configured to receive tissue from the target site; and
 - b. an elongated tissue cutting member which is disposed within the elongated probe member, which has a beveled distal tip with at least one outer tissue cutting edge which defines at least in part a tissue receiving opening ~~with a longitudinal orientation at an angle with respect to the longitudinal axis less than 90° over a length thereof,~~ which has an inner lumen extending therein to an in fluid communication with the tissue receiving opening, which is configured to be operably connected to at least one drive unit to move the tissue cutting member to cut a tissue specimen from tissue extending into the tissue receiving aperture of the elongated probe member.

2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 1 wherein the inner lumen of the tissue cutting member is configured to access a vacuum source to transport a tissue specimen through the inner lumen thereof to a tissue collector in fluid communication with the inner lumen.

8. (Currently Amended) The biopsy device of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein the tissue cutting member is configured for rotational movement about the longitudinal axis.

9. (Original) The biopsy device of claim 8, wherein the tissue cutting member is also configured for reciprocating longitudinal movement.

10. (Original) The biopsy device of claim 9, wherein the tissue cutting member is configured for reciprocating longitudinal movement of between about 0.01 inch and about 0.2 inch (0.25-5.1 mm).

11-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The biopsy device of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein the tissue cutting member is configured for longitudinal movement along the longitudinal axis.

16. (Original) The biopsy device of claim 15, wherein the tissue cutting member is also configured for oscillating rotational movement.

17-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The biopsy device of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 1 wherein the tissue cutting edge of the tissue cutting member has a tissue cutting angle over a substantial part of the length of the edge of the tissue cutting member with respect to the tissue cutting edge of the aperture of about 30° to about 75°.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The biopsy device of claim 1 wherein the aperture has a tissue cutting distal edge.

22-70 (Cancelled)

71. (Currently Amended) A tissue biopsy removal device for accessing and severing a tissue specimen from supporting tissue at a target site within a patient, comprising:

- a. an elongated tubular member which has a longitudinal axis, which has an inner lumen extending therein, which has a tissue penetrating distal tip and which has a tissue receiving aperture proximal to the tissue penetrating distal tip and defined at least in part by one inner longitudinally oriented, tissue cutting edge; and
- b. an elongated tissue cutting member which is disposed within the inner lumen of the elongated tubular member, which has a distal tubular portion with a beveled distal tissue cutting tip having an outer tissue cutting edge configured to engage the at least one inner tissue cutting edge defining in part the aperture of the elongated tubular member and which is configured to be connected to at least one drive unit to move the tissue cutting member to sever from supporting tissue a tissue specimen tissue extending into the open tissue receiving section of the elongated member by the outer tissue cutting edge of the tissue cutting tip engaging the inner tissue cutting edge defining in part the aperture of the elongated tubular member.

72. (Cancelled)

73. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 72 wherein the distal tip has an opening configured to receive severed tissue.

74. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 73 wherein the elongated tissue cutting member has an inner lumen in fluid communication with the opening configured to receive severed tissue.

75. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 73 wherein the distal tubular portion has a longitudinally oriented slot in a wall thereof which has a distal end that opens to the tissue receiving opening in the distal tip.

76. (Currently Amended) The biopsy device of claim 75 wherein the distal tip is flared so that the outer tissue cutting edge of the tissue cutting member engage engages the inner tissue cutting edge of the elongated tubular member.

77. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 75 wherein the distal tubular portion has at least a second opening in a wall thereof.

78. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 77 wherein the second opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

79. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 77 wherein the second opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

80. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 77 wherein the distal tubular portion has a third opening in a wall thereof on a side of the distal tubular member opposite to the second opening.

81. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 80 wherein the third opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

82. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 81 wherein the third opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

83. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 72 wherein the distal tip has opposed tissue cutting edges.

84. (Previously presented) The biopsy device of claim 71 wherein the elongated tissue cutting member is configured for rotational and longitudinal movements within the elongated tubular member.

85. (Currently Amended) An elongated tissue cutting member for an outer tubular member of a tissue biopsy device which has a tissue receiving aperture in a wall of the outer tubular member configured defined in part by a tissue cutting edge, the tissue cutting member comprising:

an elongated shaft which is configured to be slidably disposed within an inner lumen of the outer tubular member, which has a distal tubular portion with a beveled distal tip having at least one outer tissue cutting edge configured to engage a tissue cutting edge of the outer tubular member, which has an opening defined at least in part by the at least one outer tissue cutting edge to receive tissue severed by the outer cutting edge, which has a longitudinally oriented slot in a wall of the distal tubular portion having a distal end that opens to the tissue receiving opening in the distal tip and which is configured to be connected to at least one drive unit to move the tissue cutting member to sever

from supporting tissue a tissue specimen tissue extending into the tissue receiving aperture of the outer tubular member.

86. (Cancelled)

87. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 85 wherein the elongated shaft has an inner lumen in fluid communication with the opening configured to receive severed tissue.

88. (Cancelled)

89. (Currently Amended) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim [[88]] 85 wherein the distal tip is flared so that the opposed tissue cutting edges engage tissue cutting edges of the outer tubular member.

90. (Currently Amended) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim [[88]] 85 wherein the distal tubular portion has at least a second opening in a wall thereof.

91. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 90 wherein the second opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

92. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 91 wherein the second opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

93. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 90 wherein the distal tubular portion has a third opening in a wall thereof on a side of the distal tubular member opposite to the second opening.

94. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 93 wherein the third opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

95. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 94 wherein the third opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

96. (Cancelled)